

Application Serial No. 10/556,838
Attorney Docket No. 10191/3989
Reply to Final Office Action of December 22, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace, without prejudice, all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) A device for impact detection comprising:

at least one piezo cable, wherein the piezo cable is configured such that the device detects a capacitance change by an impact object with the aid of the piezo cable, and wherein the device capacitance change is configured used to characterize the relative static permittivity dielectric constant of the impact object based on the capacitance change.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 16, wherein the piezo cable includes a first shield as an electrode for detecting the capacitance change.

18. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 17, wherein the first shield has one of a cylindrical and semicylindrical design.

19. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein the piezo cable is configured such that an impact causes a piezoelectric pulse.

20. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 19, wherein the device achieves a spatial resolution of an impact by means of a delay-time measurement.

21. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 20, wherein the piezoelectric pulse is evaluated directly, on the one hand, and is conveyed to an evaluation circuit via a delay line, on the other hand, so as to ascertain a delay time difference therefrom.

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22. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 21, wherein the piezo cable includes a second shield provided as a delay line, which is configured as a wound wire.

23. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein the piezo cable is configured such that it undergoes a longitudinal change in an impact, which causes a resistance change.

24. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 23, wherein a signal characterizing the resistance change is converted to a higher frequency for evaluation.

25. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 22, wherein the second shield is configured to be inductive, to characterize an impact object with respect to its conductivity.

26. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein the piezo cable is situated in a trim of a bumper.

27. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 26, wherein the piezo cable is injected into the trim.

28. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 26, wherein the piezo cable is clamped into the trim.